

IN THE CLAIMS

This is a complete and current listing of the claims, marked with status identifiers in parentheses. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A distance piece for obtaining and maintaining a given distance between two objects, the distance piece comprising:

- a first wedge-formed element (1), and
- a second wedge-formed element (3) comprising means (5) for receiving the first wedge-formed element (1) so that the first and second wedge-formed elements form a set of abutting surfaces

wherein at least one of the wedge-formed elements comprise(s) friction increasing means arranged on at least one of the abutting surfaces (2, 4).

2. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to claim 1, wherein the friction increasing means comprises serrated teeth arranged on an abutting surface (2) of the first wedge-formed element (1) and/or serrated teeth arranged on an abutting surface (4) of the second wedge-formed element (3).

3. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to claim 2, wherein the serrated teeth arranged on the first wedge-formed element (1) are adapted to engage with the corresponding serrated teeth arranged on the second wedge-formed element (3).

4. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to ~~any of~~ claims 1-3, wherein the receiving means of the second wedge-formed element (3) comprises at least one keyway (8).

5. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to claim 4, wherein the first wedge-formed element (1) comprises at least one key adapted to engage with the at least one

keyway (8) of the second wedge-formed element (3).

6. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to ~~any of the preceding claims 1,~~ wherein the first wedge-formed element (1) further comprises a flexible element (14) arranged on a surface thereof, the flexible element (14) being adapted to maintain the first wedge-formed element (1) in a fixed relationship with the object abutting the first wedge-formed element (1).

7. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to ~~any of the preceding claims 1,~~ wherein the second wedge-formed element (3) further comprises a flexible element (14) arranged on a surface thereof, the flexible element (14) being adapted to maintain the second wedge-formed element (3) in a fixed relationship with the object abutting the second wedge-formed element (3).

8. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to claim 6 ~~or 7~~, wherein the flexible element forms an integral part of the wedge-formed element.

9. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to claim 6 ~~or 7~~, wherein the flexible element is a separate flexible element attached to the wedge-formed element.

10. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to ~~any of the preceding claims 1,~~ further comprising a connection element (11) interconnecting the first and second wedge-formed elements (1, 3).

11. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to claim 10, wherein the first and second wedge-formed elements (1, 3) and the connection element are made of the same material.

12. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to claim 10 ~~or 11~~, wherein the first and second wedge-formed elements (1, 3) and the connection element are made as a one-

piece component.

13. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to ~~any of claims 10-12~~, wherein the first and second wedge-formed elements ~~(1, 3)~~ and the connection element ~~(11)~~ are made of a polymer-based material, such as a plastic material.

14. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to ~~any of the preceding claims 1~~, further comprising user operable hand grips ~~(6)~~ for assisting the user of the distance piece in engaging the first and second wedge-formed elements ~~(1, 3)~~.

15. (Currently Amended) A distance piece according to ~~any of the preceding claims 1~~, wherein the second wedge-formed element ~~(3)~~ comprises a slit ~~(12)~~ adapted to receive a nail of the first wedge-formed element ~~(1)~~, the slit ~~(12)~~ being arranged as a through-going opening in the surface ~~(4)~~ comprising the friction increasing means.